

October 24, 2018

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on October 24, 2018, 10:01 a.m. Present were Commissioners Christmann, Kroshus and Fedorchak.

Minutes

Mr. Christmann: I move the minutes of October 10, 2018, be approved.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-13-270  
Qwest Corporation  
Switched Access  
Price Schedule

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Protection of Information in Qwest Corporation, Switched Access, Price Schedule, Case No. PU-13-270.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-14-252  
Qwest Corporation  
Switched Access  
Price Schedule

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order on Protection of Information in Qwest Corporation, Switched Access, Price Schedule, Case No. PU-14-252.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-16-765  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Kathryn Emde - Richland County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, Kathryn Emde – Richland County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. 16-765.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-114  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Lee Dick - Stutsman County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, Lee Dick – Stutsman County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-18-114.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-122  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
2017 Electric Operations  
Annual Report

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., 2017 Electric Operations, Annual Report, Case No. PU-18-122

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-123  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.  
2017 Gas Operations  
Annual Report

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., 2017 Gas Operations, Annual Report, Case No. PU-18-123

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-145  
Otter Tail Power Company  
2017 Electric  
Annual Report

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Otter Tail Power Company, 2017 Electric, Annual Report, Case No. PU-18-145

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-187  
Public Service Commission  
Carstensen Contracting, Inc.  
Damage Prevention Enforcement

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission close Public Service Commission, Carstensen Contracting, Inc., Damage Prevention Enforcement, Case No. PU-18-187

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-328  
Otter Tail Power Company  
BDR Farms (Brett Johnson) -  
Richland County  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission adopt the Order in Otter Tail Power Company, BDR Farms (Brett Johnson) – Richland County, Public Convenience & Necessity, Case No. PU-18-328.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-364  
Northern States Power Company  
Transmission Facility Cost Recovery  
(2019)  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission suspend the rates, and reduce the filing fee to \$10,000 in Northern States Power Company, Transmission Facility Cost Recovery (2019), Rates, Case No. PU-18-364.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-368  
Northern States Power Company  
Renewable Resource Cost Recovery  
(2019)  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission suspend the rates, and reduce the filing fee to \$10,000 in Northern States Power Company, Renewable Resource Cost Recovery (2019), Rates, Case No. PU-18-368.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Coal Regulatory and AML Programs  
2018 OSM Evaluation Reports

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission accept the federal Office of Surface Mining's 2018 Evaluation Reports for the Coal Regulatory and Abandoned Mine Lands Programs.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-18-20  
Falkirk Mining Company  
Revision 38, Permit NAFK-8405  
Approval

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission conditionally approve Revision No. 38 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NAFK-8405 held by Falkirk Mining Company, to add 1680.1 acres to this permit; incorporate baseline information for the added area; revise operations and reclamation plans and update the stand-alone Ground Water Hydrology and Reclamation Bond/Cost sections of the permit.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-156  
Northern States Power Company  
Tax Reform Effects - Gas Utility  
Rates

WITHDRAWN

Case No. PU-18-155  
Northern States Power Company  
Tax Reform Effects - Electric Utility  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission appoint John Schuh and Victor Schock as advocacy staff effective May 17, 2018, in Northern States Power Company, Tax Reform Effects – Electric Utility, Rates, Case No. PU-18-155.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-18-156  
Northern States Power Company  
Tax Reform Effects - Gas Utility  
Rates

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission appoint John Schuh and Victor Schock as advocacy staff effective May 17, 2018, in Northern States Power Company, Tax Reform Effects – Gas Utility, Rates, Case No. PU-18-156.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Outside Legal Assistance

Mr. Christmann: Effective October 9, 2018, I move the Commission engage Doug Anderson, Assistant Attorney General, to advise and represent the Commission in the Westmoreland Coal Company bankruptcy case, and authorize Mr. Anderson to take appropriate and necessary action to protect the Commission's ability to fulfill its surface mining and reclamation regulatory responsibilities in *In re Westmoreland Coal Company, et al.*, Chapter 11, Case No. 18-35672, United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

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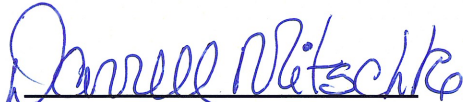
Voluntary Separation Incentive  
Program

Mr. Christmann: I move the Commission accept one of the four Voluntary Separation Incentive Program applications, and execute the Separation Agreement and Release for Position No. 4996.

Ms. Fedorchak: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

  
Executive Secretary

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 10:48 A.M.

  
RANDY CHRISTMANN, CHAIRMAN